

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph on page 22, lines 18 to 25 of the specification, as follows:

-- Now, a specific example of counting the number of recording mediums (e.g., compact disks) that are laid one on the other in air will be discussed below. While both the oscillator 10 and the first optical receiver 35a are realized as a single element also in this example, the oscillator 10 and the first optical receiver 35a may alternatively be realized as different elements. For instance, in Figure 4, the oscillator 10 is shown as a different element than element 33, which in this instance, represents the first optical receiver. --